

### *Discusses health care reform with Burlington County and South Jersey residents*

Mt. Laurel, NJ - Congressman John Adler today hosted a Health Care Forum to discuss a wide variety of health care related issues affecting Burlington County and South Jersey residents. As Congress begins to work on health care reform, Congressman Adler invited prominent local health care officials to participate in a panel discussion with residents regarding the importance of preventive medicine, efforts to keep doctors in South Jersey, and how to protect seniors and Medicare beneficiaries in the future.

Yesterday, Congressman Adler expressed his concerns that the draft health care reform bill does not do enough to contain costs, which is a fundamental part of the problem with our health care system.

"New Jersey families are paying too much for health insurance and the care they need," Congressman Adler said. "My father, who owned a local dry cleaning business, suffered through a series of heart attacks without health insurance. He couldn't afford insurance or the healthcare he needed. We need to ensure that healthcare costs are manageable for New Jersey's seniors, families, and small businesses."

At the Forum today, local residents were given the opportunity to ask health care experts about ways our country can lower health care costs, improve health outcomes and strengthen the Medicare system for seniors. Panel guests included Virtua Hospital President & CEO, Richard Miller; Medical Society of New Jersey President, Dr. Joseph Reichman; NJ AARP President, Sy Larson; and American Cancer Society South Jersey Region President, Aimee Belgard.

During the event, Congressman Adler also discussed the need to lower health insurance costs for small businesses. Congressman Adler's father, a small business owner, could not afford health insurance, and lost his dry-cleaning business after suffering multiple heart attacks.

A few weeks ago, Congressman Adler announced his support of the Shop Act, a bill that will allow small businesses to pool their resources and find the best health care options to meet the needs of their employees.